

DARIA in "THE INVITATION"

By Anne D. Bernstein

ACT ONE

EXT. SIDEWALK LEADING TO LAWNDALE HIGH SCHOOL- MORNING

QUINN is walking to school. DARIA is right behind her. Quinn speeds up, looking back over her shoulder. Daria smiles, because she's freaking Quinn out, and speeds up as well. Quinn stops and turns around, hands on hips.

QUINN

Stop following me, Daria! You're following me.

DARIA

We go to the same school.

Three nearly identical jockboys-- JOEY, JEFFY, and JAMIE-- race after Quinn.

JOEY

Hey, Quinn! Can I carry your books?

JEFFY

Hey, Quinn! Can I carry your... pencil?

JAMIE

Hey, Quinn! Can I carry your... uh... got anything else?

Quinn reaches around in her pocket and takes something out.

QUINN

A hair scrunchie?

JAMIE

Great!

The boys take their items from Quinn. Quinn walks past Daria. Her admirers follow along behind. As Jamie passes...

DARIA

Careful. Don't hurt yourself with that scrunchie.

CU on Quinn and Jamie.

JAMIE  
Is that your sister?

QUINN  
Don't pry, Joey.

JAMIE  
I'm Jamie.

QUINN  
Whatever.

INT. ART CLASS- DAY

Daria and BRITTANY are sitting next to each other, drawing.

P.O.V. BRITTANY

We see her paper. Her attempt at drawing a cube is a complete disaster. She erases with great vigor.

BRITTANY  
Perspective is hard!

Ms. Defoe, the art teacher, approaches. She wears a string of large amber beads and a loose, batik caftan.

She looks down at Daria's drawing and smiles.

MS. DEFOE  
Good work, Daria. Your cube is bursting out of the picture plane. You've really created the illusion of depth.

DARIA  
I'm thinking of going into politics.

Ms. Defoe looks at Brittany's drawing and her face drops.

BRITTANY  
Miss Defoe, I need a new pencil. I used up the eraser.

MS. DEFOE  
Here, Brittany, take another pencil and a fresh piece of paper and try again.

Ms. Defoe walks out of frame.

BRITTANY

If I don't figure this out, I'll have to take remedial art. I heard they make all the lefties become righties.

DARIA

[But] you are a righty.

Brittany looks blankly at her hands for a moment, then at Daria.

BRITTANY

Daria, you're smart. Show me how to do this.

DARIA

Well...

(sigh)

Hm, OK. You know when things seem very far away?

BRITTANY

Like the weekend?

DARIA

Distant things like mountains and buildings...

BRITTANY

But, Daria, we're in a building!

DARIA

Yes, but...

(slowly)

Make... believe...

DARIA'S POV: Of paper as she draws.

DARIA (CONT'D)

...you're at the mall. You're standing in front of J.J. Jeeters.

BRITTANY

Oh... like I would shop there.

DARIA

(slowly)

You don't have to go in. You're looking straight ahead at Cashman's Department Store...

BRITTANY  
Now you're talking!

DARIA  
...waaaay down at the other end.  
Everything seems to be pointing to the entrance and saying "Come shop! Come shop!"

Brittany looks puzzled. She needs further help.

DARIA (CONT'D)  
"One Day Sale!"

BRITTANY  
(completely enlightened!)  
I get it!  
(very impressed)  
That's really realistic, Daria.

DARIA  
That's one-point perspective-- all the lines are pointing to one spot on the horizon.

BRITTANY  
I get it! Except...

DARIA  
Yes?

BRITTANY  
Is Cashman's really having a one-day sale?

INT. LAWNSDALE HIGH- HALLWAY-- DAY

Kevin is hanging out with Mack, in front of the lockers.

KEVIN  
Yo, Mack Daddy, you coming to Brittany's party?

MACK  
Don't call me that, okay? What's this party for, anyway?

KEVIN  
(thinking)  
Ummmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm...

MACK  
(used to Kevin's thickness)  
Stop if it starts to hurt.

KEVIN  
(chuckling)  
Really. Um, her birthday was last  
month. I helped her exchange all the  
presents.

MACK  
Even yours?

KEVIN  
Yeah... then she had a saleslady  
explain the difference between perfume  
and cologne. Interesting stuff, bro!  
(pause)  
Now I remember! The party's to  
celebrate her parents being out of  
town!

The three jocks come along with Quinn.

KEVIN (CONT'D)  
Hey! Joey! Jeffy! Jeremy!

JAMIE  
I'm Jamie.

KEVIN  
Whatever. You going to Brittany's  
party?

JOEY  
If we're invited.

KEVIN  
You're on the team, dudes. When a  
cheerleader has a party, all the  
football players are automatically  
invited.

MACK  
(sarcastic)  
It's on page six of the playbook.

KEVIN  
Really?  
(beat)  
Hey Quinn, what about you?

QUINN  
Can I?

KEVIN  
Sure!

All three jocks turn to Quinn. They look down at their own feet and kick the ground.

ALL THREE JOCKS  
(bashful -- ad lib not in unison)  
Uh... Quinn, wanna go to the party with me?

QUINN  
Sure!

ALL THREE JOCKS  
Which one?

QUINN  
Every one! You can't expect me to choose a boyfriend right away! That would be like eating the first pancake off the stove. You have to feed one to the dog.

CU reaction shot of the three jocks, not sure how to take this comment.

INT. LAWNSDALE HIGH CAFETERIA-- DAY

Daria is on line with her tray. Brittany picks one up. She shivers with disgust...

BRITTANY  
Ugh! I hate it when the trays are wet!

DARIA

That which does not kill us makes us stronger.

BRITTANY

Is that from a song?

(pause)

Hey, thanks for helping me out in art.

DARIA

No problem.

BRITTANY

Maybe I could help you out with something...

DARIA

Well, you could show me how to twirl hair around my little finger and look vacant.

BRITTANY

I don't know if that's something you can teach...

They move down the line. Brittany starts to put a dish on her plate, but changes her mind.

BRITTANY (CONT'D)

Ugh! I hate it when the pudding has skin!

DARIA

I know what you mean... and that scares me.

BRITTANY

Hey, even though I'm much more popular, we have some things in common.

DARIA

Breathing?

BRITTANY

I mean, you're not popular, but you're not so un-popular that you couldn't come to my party Saturday night.

DARIA

Is that an invitation?

BRITTANY

Yes! Just this once, though.

DARIA

Gee, Brittany, I'm overcome with emotion.

BRITTANY

(helpful)

You need a napkin? Anyway, I promised the other cheerleaders that I wouldn't invite any more really attractive girls.

DARIA

Now I'm especially flattered.

BRITTANY

Don't mention it!

INT. JANE'S ROOM-- AFTER SCHOOL

Daria and Jane are hanging out in Jane's room. There are art supplies and artwork all over the place. Daria is flipping through some sketches on a pad.

DARIA

These are really good. I didn't know you studied life drawing.

JANE

Yeah, last summer.

DARIA

You're really bursting out of the picture plane here.

JANE

Oh yeah, that particular model was quite "bursty." I think she had her bursts done.

DARIA

Speaking of which... Brittany invited me to her party.

JANE

No kidding! Are you going?

DARIA

Oh yeah, and after that, I think I'll swallow glass. (PAUSE) Why? Do you want to?

JANE

Oh no, I'd much rather stay home and listen to my brother practice the opening to "Come As You Are."

(as if climbing a hill)

He's almost got it...

(beat)

I bet I could get some great sketches there.

DARIA

Well, I'm sure there will be plenty of people posing. (BEAT) If you want to go, just make believe you're me. When you're popular, all unpopular people look alike anyway.

Jane takes Daria's glasses and puts them on. She looks as morose as possible.

JANE

(sounding depressive)

Hi, I'm Daria. Go to hell. (BEAT)

(BACK TO REGULAR VOICE) It won't work.

My face is too expressive.

INT.- QUINN'S ROOM- EVENING

Quinn is admiring herself in a three-way mirror setup she has concocted with her closet mirror, makeup mirror, and wall mirror. Numerous rejected outfits are strewn about.

QUINN

Sheer, semi-sheer, or opaque?

Quinn looks puzzled... then has a revelation.

QUINN (CONT'D)

Textured!

Daria walks by, peeks in, and halts.

DARIA

Isn't one of you enough?

QUINN

Go away! I'm concentrating! I'm invited to a party Saturday night and I have to choose the perfect outfit.

DARIA

Countdown... only 72 more hours to go. Might this party be at Brittany's house?

QUINN

Yes, and might you go away now? (PAUSE)  
Hey, how do you know about it?

DARIA

I'm invited too! (SLYLY) But I haven't decided if I'll go...

QUINN

You CAN'T go! You'll ruin everything!

Daria smiles broadly.

DARIA

You know, I really should broaden my social horizons.

Quinn storms out of the room.

QUINN

(off screen)

Mom! Dad! Daria is ruining my life again!

INT. MORGENDORFER'S DINING ROOM- NIGHT

The family is eating dinner. Quinn is agitated. Daria is at peace.

QUINN

Tell Daria she can't go to Brittany's party! My popularity is at stake!

HELEN

Now, don't begrudge your sister a chance to expand her circle of friends.

QUINN

Maybe now she'll have two.

DARIA  
Touché, Quinn.

QUINN  
And don't think you're confusing me  
with that French! (PAUSE) You should  
ground her!... because... her room is a  
mess!

DARIA  
If I go down for that one, I'm taking  
you with me.

QUINN  
Wait! Here's something worse! I asked  
her to do my homework for me... and she  
made me PAY!

Jake and Helen look at Quinn with surprise.

QUINN (CONT'D)  
(BEAT) Never mind.

HELEN  
I think it's great that you two are  
going to be spending time together. Dad  
and I would be happy to drive you to  
the party and pick you up!

Daria and Quinn are appalled!!!

DARIA AND QUINN  
No!!!!

Daria and Quinn look at each other, and are terribly  
embarrassed by their identical reaction. They pull away  
from each other in disgust.

QUINN  
Thanks, but I'll find some other way to  
get there.

Quinn storms off. Jake, Helen, and Daria continue eating.  
Helen glances at the door (after Quinn) before speaking.

HELEN  
Daria, I'd like it if you'd keep an eye  
on Quinn at this party.

DARIA

I don't know what I did, but it  
couldn't have been that bad.

HELEN

I mean it. And she doesn't have to  
know about it.

DARIA

Is this your way of acknowledging how  
much more mature and trustworthy I am?

HELEN

It's my way of saying if you won't do  
it, I'm sending you both with a  
babysitter.

DARIA

I'll take that as a ringing declaration  
of parental approval.

HELEN

Just the way it was intended,  
sweetheart.

Daria and Helen smile (daggers) at each other. Jake looks  
from one to the other, then nervously goes back to his  
meal. They keep smiling. Head down, his eyes shift  
between them one more time.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Brittany is filling bowls with junk food. Kevin keeps sticking his hand in them and grabbing handfuls of chips.

BRITTANY

I love being the hostess! It's so easy to get home at the end of the night!

KEVIN

You're a great hostess, cupcake!  
(ding!)  
Hey!

BRITTANY

Did I tell you that I did this really nice thing, and invited Daria Morgendorffer, even though she never ever wears nail polish?

KEVIN

Her sister Quinn's coming, too.

BRITTANY

Oh no! She's too cute! My friends will kill me!

Kevin reaches for more chips. Brittany slaps his hand.

BRITTANY

Kevin! You're mixing up the flat ones and the ridgy ones!

KEVIN

(mouth full)  
Everything looks great, munchkin. Why are you so nervous?

BRITTANY

I'm just afraid people will judge me by my house. And we don't have the jacuzzi in yet.

KEVIN

(comforting)  
Hey, stuff like that doesn't matter. The most popular people with the best-

looking hair -- that's what makes a  
great party!

EXT. CREWE NECK GATEHOUSE- NIGHT

CU of a sign. It reads: "Crewe Neck-- Private and Proud!"

INT. TRENT'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

TRENT is giving Jane and Daria a lift to the party.

JANE

Thanks for the ride, Trent.

TRENT

No problem. I needed a break, anyway.  
I'd been practicing for ten hours  
straight.

JANE

Daria, would you say sleeping with a  
guitar in your hands counts as  
practicing?

Daria looks at Jane, unsure what to say(!).

TRENT

As long as you don't drop it.

The car drives up, almost to the gatehouse, but stops  
short.

TRENT

I'll let you off here. I have a  
problem dealing with authority.

JANE

You sure you don't want to crash?

TRENT

A high school party? Please. Don't you  
think I'm a little mature for that?

Daria and Jane exchange a look.

EXT. CREWE NECK GATEHOUSE- NIGHT

Daria and Jane get out of the car.

TRENT  
Don't do anything I wouldn't!

DARIA  
(mumbling)  
Bye.

And Trent pulls away. They walk toward the gate. Jane is carrying her drawing pad.

JANE  
(sly)  
Nice conversational skills.

DARIA  
I hate you.

They approach the GUARD.

DARIA (CONT'D)  
We're here for Brittany Taylor's party.

GUARD  
Names?

DARIA  
Daria Morgendorffer.

GUARD  
OK. And you? What's your name?

JANE  
Tiffany! (ASIDE TO DARIA) There's gotta be one.

GUARD  
Tiffany Hodge, Tiffany Duke, Tiffany Fairchild, or Tiffany Blum-Deckler?

JANE  
Uh... Tiffany Duke.

GUARD  
Streee-ike! You're out! I made that one up.

DARIA  
(covering)  
Oh... she's not on the guest list.  
She's been hired to draw portraits.  
She's very talented.

GUARD  
(skeptical)  
And your name is Tiffany Duke, huh?

JANE  
What a coincidence?

Daria puts the sketch pad into his hands and opens it.

DARIA  
These are some of her sketches from art  
class. They're very lifelike.

The Guard looks. His eyebrows lift. He's hooked.

GUARD  
Hmmm... These are pretty hot!

He begins flipping through, becoming more intrigued.

Jane and Daria slip off, as the guard is distracted, and  
run toward Brittany's house.

The guard looks up and notices.

GUARD (CONT'D)  
Stop! Halt!... ah, never mind.

He looks back at the pad and continues flipping through  
drawings, content.

GUARD (CONT'D)  
Helloo... gorgeous!

INT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE-- NIGHT

The party has begun. People are milling about in limited  
animation. It is arrival/get acquainted time.

Quinn is already there with her three dates.

QUINN

So I said "Just because people are clique-y and snotty is no reason not to like them!"

JOEY, JEFFY, AND JAMIE

(various "yeah"s, "uh huh"s, and the like...)

Brittany is standing with Mack and Jody.

BRITTANY

How do you like my house?

JODIE

Uh... it's quite... "coordinated".

MACK

And the ceramic tigers...they're grrrrreat!

JODIE

Where's the jacuzzi?

Brittany's face falls.

Cut to: Quinn and Joey.

JOEY

Here... I got you a drink.

Quinn looks into the cup, disappointed.

QUINN

This ice isn't crushed!

JOEY

I'll go crush some! (WHISPER) You know, Jeffy still sleeps with a Teddy bear.

Joey goes off. Jeffy appears with his offering, a bowl of pretzels. Quinn makes a face.

QUINN

These aren't twisty.

JEFFY

I'll go twist some. (WHISPER) You know, Jamie is a really sloppy kisser.

Quinn looks shocked. She thinks HE kissed Jamie.

JEFFY (CONT'D)  
I heard it FROM A GIRL!

Jeffy goes off. Jamie arrives with a round cracker.

QUINN  
I like square crackers.

Jamie bites the corners off and hands it to her.

JAMIE  
Here. You know, Joey was once...

Quinn looks down at his hand in disgust.

QUINN  
Uck! Gross!

CU on a clique of catty girls. They are discussing various partygoers. Their heads and eyes move in unison.

POPULAR GIRL ONE  
Now, she's really popular, but not as popular as she is. He's medium popular, and he just bought a great car, so soon he'll be getting more popular. That guy was just popular enough to be invited, but now he needs to hook up with a girl who's more popular than he is...

EXT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE-NIGHT

Jane and Daria arrive at Brittany's house. It has a circular driveway and is lit by floodlights. It is a strange combination of Southern Plantation and Tudor styles. The circular drive is completely filled-up with parked cars.

DARIA  
You really want to do this?

JANE  
You know, just because people are clique-y and snotty is no reason not to like them!

DARIA  
(brightly)  
Or hate them!

Jane and Daria snicker or don't.

JANE  
Chin up. Nose up. Let's go!

INT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE- NIGHT

The doorbell rings. It plays the first few bars of "The Farmer In The Dell." We hear this occasionally in the background throughout the party.

Brittany answers the door. Daria and Jane enter.

BRITTANY  
Daria! You're here! I'm so glad! Now we're even!

DARIA  
This is Jane. She wasn't invited but... she's good in art.

BRITTANY  
But I have you for that.  
(looking at Jane)  
Hmmm... what do you know about geometry?

JANE  
Lotsa circles, squares and triangles!

BRITTANY  
Wow! Come on in!

Quinn sees Daria enter. She ducks behind a ceramic tiger.

Time goes by... use squiggly lines or something.

CU of Daria and Jane, standing near the food table, looking uncomfortable. Daria looks down at the snacks.

DARIA  
(fake impressed)  
Two kinds of chips.

JANE  
Flat or ridgy? You make the call.

Daria and Jane are approached by CHUCK RUTTHEIMER, the least popular person at the party, besides Daria and Jane. This is due to his large ears, bad haircut, and the fact that he is really quite annoying. His nickname is "Upchuck."

UPCHUCK

Chuck Ruttheimer, here! And you are...?

JANE

Jane.

DARIA

(BEAT) Esmerelda.

UPCHUCK

I'll be your social director for the evening. Would you ladies like a tour of the house? It's free.

DARIA

Do you accept tips?

UPCHUCK

Of course.

DARIA

Ditch the bangs.

UPCHUCK

Feisty!

He puts his arms around Daria and Jane. They remove his arms. He walks ahead and they exchange a "what the hell?" look and follow.

UPCHUCK (CONT'D)

This five-bedroom house is designed in a combination of Southern Pseudo-Plantation and Late Mock-Tudor Styles...

They make their way through rooms and past partygoers.

UPCHUCK (CONT'D)

To your right, the Quasi-Victorian breakfast nook. Straight ahead, the family den, which was inspired by the novels of Isaak Dinesen.

They arrive at a closed door.

UPCHUCK (CONT'D)

And this... is the makeout room. Am I blushing? Confidentially, it's really the laundry room.

We hear lots of rattling and clanking inside. Upchuck knocks on the door-- hard.

UPCHUCK

Hey! Don't lean on the buttons!

GUY'S VOICE

Can it, Upchuck, or I'll break your face!

GIRL'S VOICE

Giggle giggle.

UPCHUCK

As we reach the end of our tour, I'd like to thank you for your undivided attention. Any questions?

DARIA

Yes. How'd you get invited?

UPCHUCK

I dissected her frog.

CU of catty girls.

POPULAR GIRL ONE

Now, she used to be very popular, but then there was that unfortunate nose job. That one behind the tiger, she was new and cute, so she became, like, popular overnight! Those three aren't popular at all -- I don't know what they're doing here. Maybe some kind of exchange program.

POPULAR GIRL TWO

But what's with that girl with the glasses? Her face looks weird... all the same color.

POPULAR GIRL ONE

She's not wearing makeup.

SANDI  
Is that a new look or something?

POPULAR GIRL ONE  
Brrrrr... Scary!

Cut to: Two guys, checking out Daria and Jane.

JANE  
Those guys are looking at us.

DARIA  
Don't they know that we're from two  
different worlds... regular and  
popular?

JANE  
The one in the green shirt is cute.

Daria gives Jane a look. Jane is flustered -- she's just  
admitted attraction to a normal, popular guy.

JANE (CONT'D)  
In a head-too-big-for-his-body kind of  
way.

Daria continues to stare.

JANE (CONT'D)  
I hate you.

The two guys come up to Daria and Jane, one on each side.

PICKUP GUY 1  
Partying hard, or hardly partying?

DARIA  
Hardly interested.

PICKUP GUY 2  
So, where have you girls been all our  
lives?

DARIA  
Waiting here for you. We were born in  
this room, we grew up in this room, and  
we thought we would die here, alone,

but now you've arrived, and our lives  
can truly begin.

PICKUP GUY 2  
(elbowing his friend)  
She likes you!

Jane makes eye contact with Pickup Guy 2, and smiles. She  
looks at Daria, and stops smiling.

JANE  
Hey! Isn't that Quinn?

DARIA  
Where?

JANE  
Over there! Hiding behind the ceramic  
tiger!

DARIA  
Yoo Hoo! Sis!

Daria gives a big grin and waves frantically (not in  
character for her, but imitating some dippy girl she once  
saw).

CU of Quinn, ducking back behind the tiger. Joey, Jeffy,  
and Jamie walk by, looking confused because they've lost  
sight of Quinn.

EXT. THE GUARD HOUSE- NIGHT

The guard has been enjoying Jane's sketches. He slams the  
pad shut.

GUARD  
I gotta take this class! I gotta find  
Tiffany!

He looks down at the cover. JANE LANE is written on the  
cover.

GUARD (CONT'D)  
I mean... Jane!

The guard marches off, in the direction of the party. In  
his haste, he leaves behind his hat and club.

Once he is gone, assorted cars-- some respectable, others old jalopies-- drive into Crewe Neck. Security has completely broken down.

ROWDY GUY IN CAR  
YeeeeeeeeHaaaaaa! Parteeeee!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. BRITTANY'S LIVING ROOM- NIGHT

Quinn is standing with Joey, Jeffy, and Jamie. Her eyes dart around, nervously.

JOEY

I'm glad we found you.

JEFFY

We were looking all over!

JAMIE

I looked the hardest.

P.O.V. Quinn: She sees Daria making her way across the room, looking way too friendly.

QUINN

Uh...I gotta go to the bathroom!

JOEY, JEFFY, AND JAMIE

("I'll go with you", "need help?",  
"wait up", etc.)

QUINN

(exasperated)

It's the bathroom!

Quinn races off and they are left waiting for her. She turns a corner and, just as she gets to the bathroom, comes upon Daria.

DARIA

(too brightly)

Hi Sis!

QUINN

Aren't you a little out of place here?  
And everywhere else on earth?

Quinn goes in the bathroom and SLAMS the door. A line begins to form. Daria, angry, glances over at the three guys.

DARIA'S POV: The guys.

ON DARIA. Wicked smile.

INT. BRITTANY'S LIVING ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Daria has joined the guys.

DARIA

Hi! I'm Quinn's brainy sister! People say we look alike!

BACK TO BATHROOM. The line is longer now. JODIE and SANDI discuss the situation.

JODIE

What's she doing in there?

Brittany walks by just as the next line is delivered

SANDI

Maybe she's taking a jacuzzi!

ON BRITTANY. Her face falls. She's crushed.

BACK TO DARIA AND THE GUYS.

Quinn returns, just as Daria is finishing up an embarrassing story about Quinn.

DARIA

...and the traffic was so tied up that my mom finally hands Quinn the empty soda cup and says "Here... you gotta go-- then go!"

Quinn approaches and realizes what's going on.

DARIA (CONT'D)

I have this great picture at home of Quinn in her chubby stage...

Quinn grabs Daria and pulls her to the side. Quinn pulls out a bill.

QUINN

I've got five dollars.

DARIA

Boy, you try to look out for your little sister...

QUINN  
(pulling out another bill)  
Make it ten!

DARIA  
(plucking money from Quinn's  
hands)  
Well, I have been saving up for a pair  
of fancy orthopedic shoes.

CUT TO:

EXT. GUARDHOUSE- NIGHT

A RICH GUY IN PAJAMAS is knocking on the gatehouse door.  
He furious about the out-of-control party.

PJ MAN  
Hello? Anybody there? There's a wild  
party going on up on Deerview Court!  
What do you plan to do about it?

He knocks again.

PJ MAN  
You can't ignore me! I pay your salary!

No answer.

PJ MAN (CONT'D)  
Are you sleeping in there? You're not  
a real cop, you know!

INT.-BRITTANY'S HOUSE- NEAR LAUNDRY ROOM DOOR-NIGHT

Each of Quinn's admirers is trying to convince her to go  
into the makeout room. As this scene progresses, laundry  
room noises increase and bubbles begin to seep out from  
under the door.

JAMIE  
Quinn, I don't care if your sister is a  
brain, I would never hold it against  
you. So you wanna go in the laundry  
room?

Joey pushes Jamie to the side.

JOEY

Hands off, Jamie. Quinn, you may come from a nerdy family, but that makes your popularity like even more amazing! Now, why don't we ditch these two losers?

Jeffy pushes Joey to the side.

JEFFY

Take a hike, Joey. Quinn, if you were my girlfriend, we could ignore your sister together. Now, will you go steady with me... at least for a couple of hours?

Quinn looks down at her feet. The hall is filling with bubbles.

QUINN

Oh no! These shoes are suede!

INT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE- LIVING ROOM- NIGHT

Daria is standing alone. There are partygoers all around her, dancing. Visual emphasis on the bad dancers.

DARIA

(deadpan)

It's the Soul Train. Beep beep. Get on board.

Jane returns to Daria's side.

DARIA (CONT'D)

What happened to Bobby Bighead?

JANE

I wasn't really interested.

DARIA

Too bad.

Daria picks a sock off of Jane's back and holds it up.

DARIA (CONT'D)

Is this yours?

Jane is embarrassed because Daria now knows that she has actually made out with Mr. Bighead.

JANE  
(resigned)  
Okay, fine. He thought my head was a  
lollipop. Ready to go?

DARIA  
I was ready to go before we got here.

As they walk out...

JANE  
So... have fun?

DARIA  
Well, I didn't talk to a whole bunch of  
new people, I made Quinn want to throw  
herself down a well, and I'm going home  
with a bonus sock... all in all, a  
great night!

INT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE- STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Back to Quinn and her three fans.

QUINN  
Joey... Jeffy... (STRAINING TO  
REMEMBER)... Jamie?

JAMIE  
You got it!

QUINN  
Uhhh.... I don't think this is working  
out.

ALL THREE GUYS  
What?

QUINN  
I mean, you're really special guys, and  
you deserve a really great  
girlfriend... three actually... but I  
feel that you're pressuring me to do  
things I'm not ready for.

ALL THREE GUYS  
("What?"s, "huh"s, and etc.)

QUINN

That's doesn't mean you have to stop paying attention to me and buying me stuff and driving me places, but it does mean that... I think... what I'm trying to say is...

JOEY

Let's be friends?

QUINN

Yeah. Sorry.

The three look dejected, as it sinks in.

JEFFY

You came on too strong!

JAMIE

You didn't give her enough space!

JOEY

You should have brushed your teeth!

The three guys jump each other, and start rolling around in a large "fight ball."

QUINN

Stop it! Stop fighting! This is horrible!

A number of partygoers gather to watch.

QUINN (CONT'D)

(proudly)

They're fighting over ME!

INT.-BRITTANY'S HOUSE- JUST INSIDE FRONT DOOR- NIGHT

The PJ man bursts in, with two cops.

PJ MAN

That's it! Everybody out! Vamoose!

P.O.V. Pajama man: He pans the crowd of kids. His gaze lands on the security guy, who is trying to hide behind a tiger.

PJ MAN (CONT'D)  
You too, Kojak. The real cops are here  
now.

The guard takes this insult-- as it is intended.

BRITTANY  
Oooo.... COPS! Does that mean we're on  
TV?

EXT.- GUARDHOUSE- NIGHT

Daria and Jane have taken over the gatehouse. Jane is wearing the guard's hat. Daria has his club. They are giving the rich folks a hard time. They won't let them into their own community until they answer some dumb questions.

DARIA  
New security precautions. May I see  
some ID, please?

RICH DAME  
You seem awful young to be doing this  
kind of work.

DARIA  
It's a disguise, ma'am. We're actually  
much older.

JANE  
(deferential)  
Not as old as you, of course, ma'am.

DARIA  
Now, we'll have to ask you a few  
questions.

JANE  
Is that your natural hair color?

RICH DAME  
Well, I never in my life!

DARIA  
(writing down answer)  
Never colors it.

CUT TO:

JANE  
Know to the Greeks as...?

RICH MAN  
Zeus.

DARIA  
Excellent!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER RICH MAN  
I can name that tune in three notes!

EXT.- BRITTANY'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Mack, Jodie and Brittany come out the front door.

MACK  
Thanks for the party, Brittany.

BRITTANY  
(to Jodie)  
Sorry about the jacuzzi.

JODIE  
It's okay. The wall-to-wall carpeting  
in the bathrooms makes up for it.

INT. BRITTANY'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Quinn's dates have beaten each other up. Quinn stands to  
the side, puzzled.

QUINN  
Joey? Jeffy? Jamie? How am I gonna get  
home?

EXT.- GUARDHOUSE- NIGHT

Quinn approaches guardhouse. With each step, her shoe makes  
a squish sound.

DARIA  
What happened to your fan club?

QUINN  
They beat each other up. It was kind  
of... what's that thing?... when stuff  
turns out funny? Moronic.

JANE

Ironic.

DARIA

She was right the first time.

QUINN

You wanna call Mom and Dad?

DARIA

And shift the balance of power? We walk.

QUINN

But my shoes are all squishy.

A car pulls up. It is Chuck Ruttheimer, ready to serve.

UPCHUCK

You ladies in need of a knight in shining armor?

DARIA

Can we just take the armor and ditch the knight?

UPCHUCK

It's a package deal, toots!

They get in. As the car drives into the distance, we hear Upchuck's running commentary...

UPCHUCK (CONT'D)

To your left, the home of the town director of public works, built on unstable landfill. To your right, a flattened squirrel. Straight ahead-- the future!

DARIA

Stuff a sock in it, Upchuck!

UPCHUCK

Feisty!

THE END