

WHEN ZOO WISH UPON A STAR - Jacob Bogart - 4/25/15 - Version #2

CAST:

Donna - 30's, socially awkward Zoo Keeper
Flamingo - a flamingo, flaming gay
Lion - a lion, regal 1%-er, thunderous voice
Giraffe - a giraffe, stoner
Goose - a goose, annoying, invasive
Head Zoo Keeper

(Flamingo stands on one foot, with their hands tucked under their armpits like wings. Donna pets Flamingo and feeds them from her hands.)

DONNA

I just feel used, ya know. He doesn't respect me, there's no communication, and yesterday he made me scoop up poop for five hours.

FLAMINGO

SQUAWK!

DONNA

Well I wouldn't call him *that*. But yes, the Head Zoo Keeper is a... a not very nice guy.

FLAMINGO

SQUAWK!

DONNA

Because I have to! I've got bills and student loans and this beats flipping burgers. Or tricks.

FLAMINGO

SQUAWK!

DONNA

Mr. Flamingo, sometimes I wish you and all the other animals were real. You'd be able to pick up your own shit. And maybe I could have some friends.

(Looks up at the sky)

Oh look, a shooting star! Right in the middle of the day! How queer.

(Flamingo puts down their foot and puts their hands on their hips.)

FLAMINGO

The fuck you just call me, bitch?

(Donna turns around in shock.)

D-did you just speak?
DONNA

Yas queen!
FLAMINGO

(Donna faints.)

FLAMINGO (CONT'D)
Get-it-werk-fierce! Shablam for your life, gurl!
(Beat.)
Oh my God! She's dead. She's dead! SQUAWK! SQUAWK!

(Lion enters, chest out, head up.)

LION
What is all the ruckus over here? The pride was in the middle of
our afternoon nap when we-
(Notices flamingo)
Holy Simba! Flamingo, is that you?

FLAMINGO
Trust and believe, hunty! I'm serving up homo sapien realness
today. Looks like you are too, Lion!

LION
Huh?
(Looks at hands.)
What happened to my menacing claws?
(Bites hand.)
My ferocious fangs?
(Grabs neck.)
My beautiful mane!

(Giraffe saunters in, blazed as fuck.)

GIRAFFE
Duuuuude. I musta taken some craaaaazy shit last night. Y'all
look like people.

FLAMINGO
Cause we is people. And no tea, no shade, so are you Giraffe.

GIRAFFE
So that's why everything looks taller. Rad.

GOOSE (O.S.)
BAWK!

(Goose runs in, getting up in everyone's
business.)

GOOSE (CONT'D)

(In one breath)

What's going on? What's happening? Why do you guys looks funny?
What happened to Donna? Do you have any bread?

LION

Oh joy. The goose can speak as well.

(Goose begins poking Donna.)

GOOSE

Donna. Donna. Donna. Hey Donna.

(Donna wakes with a jolt.)

DONNA

AH! Wait. So this is real? It wasn't a dream?

GIRAFFE

(Philosophically)

What is real, Donna? What is dream?

LION

Could one of you pheasants please explain to your king what the
duck is going on!

FLAMINGO

Donna and I were just having a kiki, talking about her problems
and shit. Then she wished on a shooting star and now we're human.

(Goose hovers over Donna.)

GOOSE

Problems? You got problems, Donna? What kind of problems you got,
Donna? Yeast infection? PMS? Broken vibrator?

(Donna pushes Goose out of the way and
stands up.)

DONNA

Ew, no! I just hate my job.

GIRAFFE

Ouch, man. Not chill.

DONNA

No, no, no. I love you guys, I just hate working for the man.

FLAMINGO

Yeah, why do you spend all day picking up our shit? Some kind of
kink?

LION

She's probably poor. At least she looks like she is.

DONNA

I'm not poor! This is just what people have to do to survive.

FLAMINGO

You sayin' you live off our shit? That's straight up nasty town.

DONNA

I don't eat- Hhhhh. Alright. So since you are humans now, it's time you guys learned the hard truth of life.

(Donna takes a seat on the bench and gestures the animals over. They gather around, sitting on the ground when they say their line.)

FLAMINGO

No white after labor day?

LION

Poor people smell bad?

GIRAFFE

7/11 is out of nachos?

GOOSE

9/11 was an inside job?

DONNA

Capitalism.

FLAMINGO, LION, GIRAFFE

Ooooooh.

GOOSE

The fuck is that?

DONNA

It's how the people in charge stay in charge.

LION

Sounds great. I'm in.

DONNA

No, Lion, it's a method of systematic oppression disguised as profitable growth.

GIRAFFE

Ya, I don't know what any of those words mean.

FLAMINGO

Get on our level, mamma.

DONNA

Ok. Um...let me see. Ok, so there's this thing called the trickle-down theory. Now, imagine Lion is sitting at the top of his rock, eating a water buffalo. The bits that he doesn't eat drop down to the pride below and that's how they get their food.

LION

Except I always eat the whole buffalo.

DONNA

Exactly!

GIRAFFE

So, like, how do the not-on-top dude-bros get their water buffalo?

DONNA

They have to work. They work for the on-top people to get money to buy the things they need. But the on-top people are the ones who sell everything.

GOOSE

That's fucked up!

DONNA

Yeah, Goose, it is.

FLAMINGO

So you're sayin' you spend all day pickin' up our shit so you can pay for that metal box that takes you here to pick up our shit?

DONNA

Uh, basically.

FLAMINGO

Now that's some shade.

LION

Even I feel a little bad for you.

GIRAFFE

But, like...why? All you need to get by is leaves, a watering hole, and a little help from your friends.

DONNA

Ha! I wish! I have to pay for the clothes that I wear to pick up shit, the food that gives me the energy to pick up shit, the place I stay when I'm not picking up shit, and the school that taught me how to pick up shit.

(Loosing her temper)

Not to mention a cell phone so I can post pictures showing my friends how much fun I'm having picking up shit all day!

GOOSE

Capitalism sucks dick!

GIRAFFE

How are we gonna stop it, Donna? How do you stick it to the man?

DONNA

(defeated)

You can't. You just pick up shit and then you die. That's life.

LION

You're being over dramatic, Donna. This sounds like a brilliant system.

(The animals start to bicker.)

FLAMINGO

Bitch, you haven't picked up shit a day in your life. You were born with a silver bone in your mouth.

LION

I can swallow you in one bite.

GOOSE

That's what she said!

GIRAFFE

Everyone just needs to chill.

(They start getting more aggressive.)

FLAMINGO

Don't tell me to chill, you blue tongued freak.

LION

Says the hot pink bird.

(Flamingo gets in Lion's face. The animals close in to fight. Donna get's caught in the middle.)

FLAMINGO

I was born this way!

GOOSE

I was born in a sewer!

GIRAFFE

Violence is not the answer!

LION

Someone tell this long-necked hippie to shut his leaf hole!

(The animals straight up brawl.)

DONNA

Stop it, guys! Cut it out! Stop fighting!

(Donna gets pushed to the ground and gets knocked out. Once she's down the animals return to normal. Flamingo goes back to their opening pose. Giraffe stands on a chair, eating leaves. Lion lays down to take a nap. Goose squats and waddles around. Donna slowly awakens and looks around at the animals.)

DONNA

Where am I? Flamingo? Lion?

(Beat.)

Hm. I guess it was just a dream.

HEAD ZOO KEEPER (O.S.)

Higgins! Get back to work! That shit's not going to scoop itself.

BLACKOUT