

FADE IN:

CLOSE ON: A PHOTO OF ALECIA "ALEC" MICHAELS STANDING ON THE STAGE OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM. THERE'S A BANNER BEHIND HER THAT READS: MATHLETE NATIONAL COMPETITION.

ALEC IS A CLASSIC NERD WHO WOULD MUCH RATHER SOLVE MATH PROBLEMS THAN STYLE DO'S AND DON'T'S. SHE SPORTS A BAD HAIRCUT, BRACES, STYLE-FREE GLASSES, AND ILL-FITTING CLOTHES. YET SHE'S ALL SMILES AS SHE PROUDLY DISPLAYS A FIRST PLACE MEDAL AROUND HER NECK.

scene#

ALEC (V.O.)

Hi, my name is Alecia Michaels. You know what? Call me Alec. Alecia is just so (MOCKING) OMG! I'm all about the mall.

CUT TO:

A PICTURE OF A VAPID MALL RAT GIRL LOADED DOWN WITH SHOPPING BAGS. A BIG X IS DRAWN THROUGH IT.

CUT BACK TO:

THE PHOTO OF ALEC.

ALEC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

That's me in eighth grade. I'm kind of a math whiz. Some would call me a prodigy. Others call me...

AS ALEC LISTS THE FOLLOWING NAMES, THEY'RE SCRIBBLED OVER HER PICTURE.

ALEC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...nerd, geek, dork, dorkoid,

Dorkarella, Queen of the Dorks.

NOW A UNIBROW, BLACKED OUT TOOTH AND A CROWN ARE SCRIBBLED ON HER.

ALEC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

You get the idea. Anyway, over the summer, things changed. I lost my braces and my glasses...

ALEC'S BRACES AND GLASSES ARE ERASED FROM HER FACE, AS ARE THE UNIBROW, BLACKED OUT TOOTH AND CROWN.

ALEC (CONT'D)

I gained contacts, three inches, and my first boyfriend, Dylan.

ALEC'S HAIR AND BODY GROW; SHE MORPHS FROM KID TO TEEN. HER CLOTHES FIT BETTER. ALL THE GEEKY NICKNAMES ARE ERASED. A PICTURE OF <u>DYLAN LANGE</u>, A CUTE, AFFABLE JOCK, APPEARS BY HER SIDE. THEY ARE NOW STANDING ON A BEACH. A PLUS SIGN IS SCRIBBLED BETWEEN THEM. AN EQUAL SIGN AND "4 EVR" ARE SCRIBBLED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF DYLAN.

ALEC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And a bunch of cool new friends. Who think I'm cool! Can you believe it?

Spazzy Queen of Spazzyland is popular!

OTHER COOL LOOKING KIDS SURROUND ALEC. CHLOE LANGE, DYLAN'S TWIN SISTER, FUN, FLIRTY AND NOT THAT DEEP, APPEARS NEXT TO HER WITH THE WORDS "NEW BFF".

ALEC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I now get texts from people besides my grandmother.

CUT FIND

A CELL PHONE WITH THE TEXT "WEAR A SWEATER. XO, CRANNIT

CUT BACK TO:

PICTURE OF COOL ALEC ON THE BEACH WITH HER COOL FRIENDS.



INT. HIGHLY GIFTED CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS (ALEC, FIONA, LUCAS, NATHAN, JACE)

ALEC STUMBLES IN. THE ROOM IS A PLAYGROUND FOR BRAINIACS. THERE'S A COLLECTION OF COMPUTERS, SCIENCE LAB EQUIPMENT, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, POSTERS OF EINSTEIN, MOZART, BILL GATES, ETC., AND TONS OF BOOKS. IT'S ANCHORED BY A LARGE SMART BOARD HANGING IN THE FRONT OF THE CLASS.

ALEC GRABS ON TO A BUST OF SHAKESPEARE TO REGAIN HER BALANCE AND ALMOST KNOCKS IT OVER. SHE LOOKS UP AND SEES THREE PEOPLE STARING AT HER - FIONA GRUMLEY - FOURTEEN, MUSICAL PRODIGY, HUMORLESS, CLUELESS TO SOCIAL CUES; LUCAS DOYLE - FOURTEEN, PHYSICS PRODIGY, LIVES IN HIS HEAD; NATHAN FENER - TWELVE, SKIPPED TWO GRADES, SCIENCE PRODIGY, COCKY BEYOND HIS YEARS.

scene = 6

ALEC

Oops. Don't want to bust the bust.

FIONA

(SILENCE, THEN) The dummy class is down the hall.

ALEC

Fiona, it's me, Alec. (OFF THEIR BLANK STARES) Alec Michaels. The eighth grade voted us "Most Likely to Live with Cats"?

NATHAN

You can't be Alec. You're hot.

LUCAS

Were you in a horrible accident?

ALEC

Boy, for a bunch of geniuses, you guys are idiots.

ALEC GRABS FIONA'S GLASSES AND PUTS THEM ON. SHE THEN MAKES HERSELF A UNIBROW WITH A PIECE OF TAPE AND PUFFS HER CHEEKS UP TO LOOK FAT.

ALL

Alec!

THEY ALL GO IN FOR A HUG, NATHAN LINGERS A LITTLE TOO LONG.

NATHAN

I hope our kids get your eyes.

ALEC

We've moved on from hugging. (PEELING NATHAN OFF HER)

NATHAN

(FLIRTATIOUSLY) FYI, Nathan means stud in Hebrew.

ALEC

No it doesn't.

BOB, LUCAS' ROBOT DOG, WANDERS OVER.

BOB

(LUCAS' RECORDED VOICE) Bark, bark.

Bark, bark.

LUCAS

That's Prototype 4-12-59-XYZ-300. But I call him Bob.

ALEC

"4-12-59-XYZ-300, get off the couch!" Yeah, Bob is better.

LUCAS

Bob's the perfect pet. He sits, fetches, downloads music, vacuums, and microwaves burritos.

BOB'S HEAD EXTENDS TO THE POINT WHERE HE CAN REACH AROUND TO HIS BACKSIDE.

ALEC

And apparently he can smiff his own butt.

<u>JACE BINGHAM</u> - FOURTEEN, COMPUTER PRODIGY, SOCIALLY AWKWARD, UNDERNEATH ALL HIS HAIR AND SARDONIC ATTITUDE, HE'S CUTE - ENTERS.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Jace! (HUGGING HIM) I missed you. How was New York? Your texts were hilarious, especially that website, "Pets in Strollers". There are people in this world who diaper ferrets.

JACE

Who are you?

ALEC

Your best friend...Alec. The only person in the world who knows that you still check under the bed before you go to sleep.

JACE

Alec! Wow, I didn't recognize you without your...everything.

(MORE)

JACE (CONT'D)

You've morphed into a totally different genetic --

ALEC

I get it, I'm not a troll.

JACE

(STARING AT ALEC) You're like this whole new person. It's so weird.

ALEC

My favorite book is still "Analytic Trigonometry Part I", stuffed animals freak me out and I eat my food in alphabetical order. What's weird about that?

NATHAN

There's nothing wrong with being a new person. From now on, I'm a play-a.

JACE

Your middle name is Ludwig.

NATHAN

(FOR ALEC'S BENEFIT) It's Hebrew for --

ALEC

No it's not.

/end

SCENE H

INT. ALEC'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

scene#3

DYLAN

Get away from me, you psycho Transformer!

ALEC

I give up! You people are never going to get along and I don't care anymore. THE ROOM FALLS SILENT.

ALEC (CONT'D)

This is a problem I just can't solve.

Yes, I (SWALLOWING HARD) failed. But
I can live with that as long as I

stuff myself with Cool Ranch Doritos.

So, go ahead, hate each other. This
is still my party. So tuning you out
now and having fun.

ALEC GRABS DYLAN'S IPOD AND PUTS THE EARBUDS IN. SHE TURNS ON SOME MUSIC THAT THE OTHERS CAN'T HEAR AND DEFIANTLY STARTS TO DANCE. SHE'S AWFUL. SHE SPASTICALLY JERKS HER BODY WITH NO SENSE OF RHYTHM.

EVERYONE WATCHES IN AMAZEMENT AT WHAT A BAD DANCER ALEC IS.

LUCAS

What is she doing?

FIONA

It appears she's having a seizure.

JACE

Actually, I think she's dancing.

end

et out. Is she in pain?

TACE

No, but we are.

ALEC NOTICES THAT THE TWO GROUPS ALT ACTUALLY SPEAKING TO EACH OTHER. THEN THEY START TO RELUCTIVITY GIGGLE. EVEN THOUGH IT'S AT HER OWN EXPENSE, ALEC KEEPS DANCING BADLY TO ENCOURAGE EVERYONE'S LAUGHTER AND BONDING.

CUT TO:

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