

ACTING SCRIPTS OFFICIAL actingscriptsofficial.com

STEP SEVEN

Dialogues / Comedy / 3 min
Cast 2 Female x2

It is 2 a.m. and Priya and Kels are building a bookshelf with instructions that clearly belong to something else. Kels insists on finishing tonight. Priya starts to wonder why her roommate suddenly cares so much about furniture.

CHARACTERS

PRIYA - 26, dry, observant, holding the instruction booklet

KELS - 27, upbeat, evasive, holding an Allen wrench like a weapon

SETTING

The living room floor of a small third-floor apartment, 2 a.m. on a weeknight.

A living room floor at 2 a.m. Cardboard, foam, an ocean of screws. PRIYA, 26, holds a booklet. KELS, 27, holds an Allen wrench. Half a wooden object stands between them.

PRIYA

Okay. Step seven. Attach panel F to panel...
there is no panel F.

KELS

There's gotta be a panel F.

PRIYA

There's A through E and then a thing shaped
like a kidney.

KELS

That's F.

PRIYA

It doesn't say F on it.

KELS

Nothing says anything on it, Pri, that's the
whole design philosophy. Give me the kidney.

*Priya hands it over. Kels tries to fit it. It
does not fit.*

PRIYA

Can I ask a question.

KELS

No.

PRIYA

Why does the picture have drawers.

KELS

What?

PRIYA

On the front. The little guy with no face is putting in drawers. We don't have drawers. We have shelves. We bought a bookshelf.

KELS

It's a... modular system.

PRIYA

Kels.

KELS

Maybe the drawers come later.

PRIYA

It's 2 a.m. Nothing comes later. Are these the wrong instructions?

KELS

They were in the box.

PRIYA

Were they in this box?

Kels looks at the other box across the room. The bigger one. The one that hasn't been opened.

KELS

Okay so hear me out.

PRIYA

Why is there another box.

KELS

Just, structurally, a dresser and a bookshelf are basically the same. It's all right angles. You just gotta believe.

PRIYA

You bought a dresser.

KELS

I bought a dresser.

PRIYA

We have a dresser. We have two dressers. I'm looking at a dresser.

KELS

Hand me the screws that look like the other screws but shorter.

PRIYA

Why did you buy a dresser at midnight.

KELS

It was a sale.

PRIYA

And a bookshelf. You don't own books. You own one book and it's a cookbook and it's mine.

KELS

Okay, first of all, rude.

PRIYA

Where's the dresser going, Kels. Where in this apartment does a third dresser go.

KELS

(very focused on the kidney)

It's kind of a gray area.

PRIYA

Is the gray area in Denver.

Pause. Kels stops. Sets down the wrench.

KELS

Who told you.

PRIYA

Nobody told me. You've been weird for two weeks. You cleaned the shower. You said 'love you' when you got off the phone with the cable company.

KELS

I panicked.

PRIYA

And Sam's lease starts the first.

KELS

It's not because of Sam.

PRIYA

Okay.

KELS

It's not. I mean. It's a little because of Sam. But I got the job. The real one. The one I told you was a long shot.

PRIYA

The long shot.

KELS

I was gonna tell you. I was gonna tell you at, like, step twelve. Once we had something to lean on.

PRIYA

You bought furniture so you'd have something to do with your hands while you told me.

KELS

Yeah, that's... yeah.

PRIYA

That's the dumbest thing you've ever done.

KELS

I know.

PRIYA

I love it. I hate it. When.

KELS

End of the month.

PRIYA

That's three weeks.

KELS

I know.

Priya looks at the half-built thing. She picks up the booklet. Turns it over in her hands.

PRIYA

Congratulations. I mean it. I'll be nicer about it tomorrow.

KELS

You don't have to be nice about it.

PRIYA

I'm gonna be so nice about it. I'm gonna help you move. I'm gonna carry this dresser down three flights and I'm gonna say nothing.

KELS

Pri.

PRIYA

Also you're taking the kidney. Whatever it is. It's going to Denver.

Kels laughs, a little wet. Priya turns the booklet upside down. Looks at it.

PRIYA

Oh. Oh no.

KELS

What.

PRIYA

We've been reading it upside down. This is step one.

KELS

(picking up the wrench)

Okay. Panel A.

PRIYA

Panel A.

END OF SCRIPT